



NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE

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WEATHER & CROPS



Week Ending: August 28, 2011

Number: 25

Released: August 29, 2011

WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 28, 2011

Many areas of the eastern Virginia felt the impact of Hurricane Irene. The moisture from the storm was welcome in many areas. Areas which were not affected continue to need rain as conditions continue to be dry. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.8. There was some wind damage to tobacco, corn and soybeans. In one county there are reports of 30 to 40 percent loss on the tobacco crop. Some producers are busy setting the crops back up for harvest. There continues to be standing water in the fields. Peanuts have suffered tremendously from the rain. Vegetables continued to produce well with pumpkins and winter squash coming on strong.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 31, 2011	18	36	43	3
August 7, 2011	20	38	41	1
August 14, 2011	18	35	45	2
August 21, 2011	17	31	50	2
August 28, 2011	19	28	45	8

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT

Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
July 31, 2011	14	39	46	1
August 7, 2011	16	43	40	1
August 14, 2011	18	42	40	0
August 21, 2011	18	36	45	1
August 28, 2011	22	32	45	1

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Virginia Cooperative Extension Service

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CROP CONDITION PERCENT					
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Pasture	14	20	32	32	2
Livestock	2	6	27	51	14
Hay, Other	11	15	38	33	3
Hay, Alfalfa	6	10	29	47	8
Corn	7	14	29	44	6
Soybeans	1	3	32	53	11
Tobacco, Flue-cured	0	1	45	45	9
Tobacco, Burley	0	5	24	65	6
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	0	2	66	32	0
Peanuts	0	0	30	50	20
Cotton	0	5	5	50	40
Apples, All	0	0	69	28	3
Peaches	0	4	16	72	8
Grapes	0	0	10	79	11

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS				
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.
Corn Dough	90	87	91	89
Corn Dent	72	69	72	71
Corn Mature	41	32	53	41
Corn for Grain Harvested	1	0	21	5
Corn Silage Harvested	54	51	67	50
Soybeans Blooming	96	87	94	93
Soybeans Setting Pods	76	56	76	77
Soybeans Dropping Leaves	1	0	1	1
Flue-cured Tobacco Harvested	26	22	36	38
Burley Tobacco Harvested	20	15	22	14
Dark Fire-cured Tobacco Harvested	65	60	41	29
Peanuts Pegged	91	88	92	98
Cotton Setting Bolls	95	91	94	99
Cotton Bolls Opening	15	9	8	23
Summer Apples Harvested	65	60	89	87
Fall Apples Harvested	11	NA	16	9
Peaches Harvested	82	73	78	88

VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 28, 2011

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Aug. 27	Mar. 1 to Aug. 27 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	87	62	94	51	74	1	3184	2906	1.97	8.86	-2.21	23.65	-5.54
Norfolk	86	70	95	66	78	1	3718	3197	1.73	19.51	6.33	31.51	0.00
Richmond	89	66	95	60	78	2	3574	3146	5.95	13.95	2.03	29.77	0.00
Roanoke	87	64	95	54	76	2	3343	NA	0.28	8.71	-2.17	25.08	-3.74
Wash/Dulles	84	63	91	52	74	0	3208	NA	1.57	7.41	-3.32	25.05	2.47

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

(Central continued.)

FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

It continues to be dry in Frederick County. Pastures are short and burning up. Some producers are feeding early. We are in need of a rainfall.

WESTERN

ROANOKE (Sheri Dorn)

Weekly precipitation = 0.28". Hurricane effects were not experienced here. Temperatures were seasonal, but conditions remain dry.

ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)

Rockbridge was mostly dry this week with some thunderstorm activity Thursday. Apart from some breezy conditions and some light showers, Rockbridge experienced no effects from Hurricane Irene as it moved up the coast. Common field activities this week consisted of corn silage harvesting, some hay harvesting, and pasture mowing.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Joan D Poore)

Hurricane Irene passed through this weekend leaving minimal damage. The best out of it, the county received a good soaking of rain over a twelve hour period; steady rain. Thursday and Friday evening before the storm, some areas had a thunderstorm approach from the west (nothing to do with the hurricane) that produced an average of 1/2 inch of rainfall.

The ground is soggy for a few days now. Any harvest of hay or corn silage, which is near the end anyway, will be on hold for a few days. The temperatures last week were average to a little above normal.

The earthquake Tuesday did not have any affects on the crops or livestock.

APPOMATTOX (Bruce Jones)

Appomattox received widespread thunderstorms Thursday evening with rainfall in excess of 1 inch. The Hurricane effects were limited to windy conditions with little rainfall. Wind damage to dark tobacco was noticed, but this damage was minimal. Several producers had trees fall across fences.

CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)

Excellent soil moisture due to relatively frequent evening storms and now Irene. Irene provided a very good shot of moisture that started slowly and never produced excessive runoff in this area. We received about 3" in western Caroline, as much as 5" east of here. While some corn came down, wind damage was not excessive. Corn crop is very good to excellent, as are the soybeans. Pastures and hayfields are green and growing. We will probably get at least another good cutting of hay before the end of the season. For vegetable farmers, melons and sweet corn have peaked and will be in short supply after Labor Day. Tomatoes, peppers and eggplant continue to produce well and will be available into the fall. Pumpkins and winter squash are coming on strong and will be ready for harvest by mid- to late-September.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (John Howe)

Storm damage to standing corn on Thursday 10-15%. Irene limited storm damage.

RICHMOND (Kelly Liddington)

Getting rainfall reports in, 11+" in Richmond County from Irene, widespread power outages, lots of tree damage, little structural damage.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

SOUTHERN

NOTTOWAY (Jimmy Gantt)

Approximately 60% of the tobacco crop was blown down as a result of hurricane Irene. Some flat on the ground and some with a heavy lean. Producers are busy setting the crop back up for harvest. Wind also broke off or damaged a significant number of leaves.

SOUTHEASTERN

MECKLENBURG

South hill area of county has a 30 to 40 percent loss on tobacco crop equal to 3.5 million at least. There is some corn damage. Still isolated power outages that are hampering tobacco harvest.

SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)

Crops were doing great until Hurricane Irene. Corn producers were trying to harvest as much corn as they could last week. The high winds and heavy rain caused much damage to most all crops. Corn that was standing is about 50% blown down. Cotton and Soybeans have been knocked down by the wind and rains. There is much standing water in fields with the 13-plus inches of rain across the county. Although the water is being absorbed quite quickly as the soil and subsoil moisture content was so low prior to the hurricane. There has been much damage from trees down and power lines are down across the county.



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